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1967

August 3, 1900

PORTO RICO.

Report from Ponce.

PONCE, P. R., *July 16, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract bills of health reports for the week ended July 14, 1900. Also the mortality statistics for the past two weeks.

The week has been exceptionally dull in all lines; the usual monthly Spanish and Italian steamers from Central and South America did not touch at this port this month.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Number and causes of deaths in Ponce jurisdiction (city, playa, and surrounding country) during the two weeks ended July 14, 1900.

Infectious diseases:		Diseases of the digestive apparatus.....	130
Dysentery.....	20	Diseases of the respiratory system.....	9
Malarial fever.....	14	Diseases of the nervous system.....	5
Pernicious fever.....	3	Diseases of the circulatory system.....	2
Tuberculosis.....	6	Other diseases (anæmia, inanition, etc.)	80
Gangrene.....	2		
Typhoid fever.....	1	Total.....	276
Syphilis.....	1		
Septicæmia.....	1	Births during same period.....	64
Erysipelas.....	1		
Whooping cough.....	1		

SALVADOR.

Yellow fever in San Salvador.

SAN SALVADOR, *June 27, 1900.*

SIR: The impossibility of obtaining information as to the number of deaths due to yellow fever, compelled me to visit the penitentiary in this city, where it is rumored several interments have taken place. My inquiries revealed the fact that there was a death rate of .57 daily from that disease. I also found that a greater death rate existed last week. The symptoms are the well-known severe headache, pains of a violent character in the backbone and limbs accompanied by fever. The remedy applied is a lemonade consisting of 2 ounces of castor oil, two-thirds of lemon juice with a generous quantity of red pepper, taken in 1 dose. That, as a rule, settles the attack.

I passed to the barracks. Here I found a reticence in giving information that frustrated the object of my visit. It is, nevertheless, true that it exists there also, for I saw an individual carried away to the pesthouse. I called there also to find it full of patients.

I also saw Dr. Palomo, my physician. He did not hesitate in telling me that there were many cases in the city. The ports are apparently free from it.

Respectfully,

JOHN JENKINS,

United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.